SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2002

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and packet bulletin boards.

In the news today:

HF TO FEATURE ON INTECNET 2002 TONIGHT

KUWAIT SPECIAL STATION

MARK SHUTTLEWORTH WILL GO ON THE ISS

BIRKENHEAD REMEMBERANCE STATION

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

The SARL News Service invites Clubs and individuals to contribute news regarding Amateur Radio to sarlnews@hotmail.com only. NEWS ITEMS SENT TO OTHER ADDRESSES COULD GO ASTRAY AND MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN BULLETINS. It will be highly appreciated if it is done in both Afrikaans and English and sent as early in the week as possible.

Now for the news in detail:

HF TO FEATURE ON INTECNET 2002 TONIGHT

Getting more fun from HF will feature on Intecnet 2002 tonight, Sunday 24 February at 20:00 CAT. The guest on this popular monthly SARL talk show is well known South African Dxer and Contester Chris Burger ZS6EZ. Chris will share his experiences and give hints that will help both the experienced and newcomers to Dxing and contesting to get more fun from it.

Intecnet is interactive on various repeaters around South Africa on VHF and on 3718 kHz HF. There will also be an AM relay on 3215 kHz.

The past week Sentech confirmed that they will continue to sponsor Intecnet 2002 with relays on 3215 kHz using a 100 kW transmitter from their Meyerton short-wave broadcasting station.
Telkom sponsors the transmission lines and teleconference bridge.

Clubs that have not requested a link have till midday today to send an Email to armi@intekom.co.za. Please supply the contact number to be linked and the frequencies on which Intecnet will be active.

KUWAIT AMATEUR SOCIETY CELEBRATION

On 25th & 26th of February every year the state of Kuwait celebrates its national and liberation day. To participate in this occasion, the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society will be running a special station with the callsign 9K2NDL, there will be a QSL- card to mark this special occasion.. Contacts may be conducted on any amateur band with any mode. The event will start at 00:00 UTC on 23rd of February and will end at 23:59 UTC on Thursday 28th of February.

There is no deadline for submitting applications for the QSL- card which should be addressed to: Kuwait Amateur Radio Society P.O.Box 5240 Safat, 13053, KUWAIT Tel: 09965 533 3762, fax : 09965 531 1188

MARK SHUTTLEWORTH TO JOIN THE ISS

It has been publicised in the media that Mark Shuttleworth from Durbanville near Cape Town has applied to fly in the International Space Station (ISS). For those who have not heard who Mark is, he is a young man who sold a program to companies in the USA for more than $500 million. He will follow in the footsteps of Dennis Tito who was the first tourist in space.

Mark is undergoing training in Russia and the USA and is VERY busy. He will be a passenger in the ISS and will not fulfil the duties of a regular astronaut. However, he has had to learn the procedures to fly to the ISS and back and he has to know the safety procedures while in space. He will take some experiments with him and look after them while in space. Mark has demonstrated his willingness to introduce young people to technology, and with this in mind was asked to qualify as a radio amateur so that radio contacts with school children in the RSA and elsewhere will be possible. It turns out that training as a radio amateur will be part of his training as an astronaut, and once he qualifies, he will apply for an equivalent RSA license so that he can use an RSA call while in space. The call ZR1AIS has been suggested for first African in Space.

Mark appointed a PR organization to look after his arrangements for this trip. They knew nothing about amateur radio so a demonstration was arranged at the home of ZS1AAZ in Stellenbosch.
The plan is to have Gerald Klatzko, ZS6BTD, as the contact station. Gerald is already recognized as a bridging station and the ARRL has used him several times for contacts with MIR and the ISS. He has a very good station and can relay audio to a telephone line as well, something he does regularly during Interactive Technical Nets.

Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, has been asked to manage a telephone linkup to relay audio from ZS6BTD via the conference line to the main centres just as is done during Intechnets. Hans does this admirably during every Intechnet. Audio can then be relayed via VHF repeaters so that a large number

of amateurs can listen in. It is proposed that groups of school children be collected at a few venues and amateurs will be asked to set up a 2m station so that they can listen in. At some venues children will also be able to communicate with Mark. These still have to be arranged. A preliminary look at ISS passes between 27 April and 4 May, shows that there will be passes during the early evenings. Some of these will be chosen for contacts with children, but Mark will be able to communicate with amateurs at will during other passes.

There are some formalities to be completed. An application form has to be completed and this is nearly ready. Normally an application for a school s contact has a waiting time of one year, but we are hoping that because Mark is a South African, contacts with South African schools will be allowed during his time in space. During the last Intechnet it was suggested that Mark be asked to set up the packet station in the ISS which is not operational at present. He will probably have a bit of time for this. The other crew members are very busy as we heard during the Intechnet. Packet connections may then be possible.

HMSS BIRKENHEAD 26 FEB 1852 - 26 FEB 2002…150 YEARS

On Tuesday 26 February 2002, ZS1OAR the Overberg Amateur Radio Club, will host a special event station from Danger Point lighthouse, Gansbaai, RSA in commemoration of the stranding of the Birkenhead on 26 Feb 1852.

The callsign ZS1OAR/BIRKENHEAD will be used. Please QSL direct and provide a SASE. QSL direct to: ZS1OAR, P O Box 637, Gansbaai. 7220.

NOTE; DO NOT QSL VIA THE BUREAU!!!!!!

Time: start 05:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC. Freq: 7,050, 14,200, 21,200, 28,400 MHz.SSB (approx and depending on propagation predictions and conditions) Grid locator: JF95PJ.

Enquiries: ZS1WC Johan, e-mail wjmc@xsinet.co.za

CLUB NEWS

BORDER RADIO CLUB HISTORY

The Border Radio Club in East London, is busy researching its history. Published on their website is a photo dating back to 1921 that was taken at a meeting of the ” East London District Radio Society”. The website address is http://www.sa-eastcape.co.za/brc/Picture.htm. All and any information on the early days of this club and its members will be most welcome. Please contact Richard Seddon, ZS2CLI (043 745 1650) or Brian Prior ZS2AU (043 748 4856)

PEARS SASOL 2002 SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society will again have an exhibit at the Sasol 2002 Science Festival to be held in Grahamstown from the 13th to 19th March 2002. This year's exhibit will not overpower the youth with expensive equipment, but will give them the chance to construct a single transistor morse code transmitter that will be tested on the air. Al Akers, ZS2U, has already

made several contacts with the prototype. Please listen out on 7030 kHz during the festival period and participate. PEARS will welcome any assistance, suggestions, posters and printed matter relating to amateur radio that can be distributed during the Sasol 2002 Science Festival. Please contact Neil Thomas ZR2NT at e-mail: meltek_n@global.co.za if you can make a contribution.

MUSEUM DAY - SASOLBURG RADIO CLUB

SASOLBUG RADIO CLUB is holding an exhibition of old radio equipment as well as homebrew items on 30, 31 May and 1 June. There will also be an opportunity for a flea market.
A special event station will be on the air for the whole period. QSL cards will be issued to all stations worked.
Local schools will be invited to visit the exhibition on Thursday and Friday. Saturday will be mainly for other visitors.

Clubs and individuals are invited to reserve tables and submit a short list of equipment for display and/or the flea market. The due date for reservations is 5 May to allow enough time for the final arrangements and advertising on news bulletins.

Tables will be available at R40,00 per table for the whole period and reservations must be confirmed with the appropriate amount. Cheques and information can also be sent to and requested from Box 1493, Vereeniging, 1930.

A foodstall with vetkoek, hotdogs, hamburgers, etc. will also be available on the premises.

SARLNEWS thanks all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organizations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins.

This bulletin was compiled by Gustav ZS6BWN, and read by………..from . .. ..as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750 and 7082 kHz and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz. ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

At noon on Sundays the SARL President s net is on the air on 7082 kHz.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX